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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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December 11, 2012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#11

December 11, 2012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Sachi A. Hamai
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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS RELATING TO THE ASSAULT FOR THE HEINOUS ASSAULT ON A SHERIFF'S DEPUTY (ALL DISTRICTS) (3VOTES)

SUBJECT

Board approval is being requested for the distribution of reward funds in the amount of \$25,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in the total amount of \$25,000, to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to an individual who provided information to law enforcement that led to the apprehension and conviction of the persons responsible for the assault of a Sheriff's Deputy.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On November 11, 2009, at approximately 7:00 a.m. two suspects assaulted a Sheriff's Deputy following a traffic stop near 21048 Golden Triangle Road in Canyon Country. The suspect in the driver's seat claimed he did not have a driver's license or identification and was asked to step out of the vehicle by the Deputy. Shortly thereafter, the suspect forcefully attacked the Deputy and attempted to get away. A second suspect, who was in the passenger seat, got out of the truck and joined in the attack, striking and kicking the Deputy. The two suspects then returned to their vehicle and fled the area. It has since been determined that the suspects used stolen and fraudulent debit cards to purchase items at local retail stores just prior to the attack on the deputy.

During the investigation, law enforcement officials were provided with information from a witness who recognized one of the suspects while watching the news. The witness was able to directly lead detectives to the suspect, Musheg Tokhunts.

The Detective from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Detective Division believes that the witness provided information that was instrumental in the apprehension and conviction of the Defendant, Musheg Tokhunts, who was charged with a Felony 243(c)(2) PC - "Battery on a Police Officer in the Commission of their Duties" and sentenced to three years in State prison. Subsequently, the second defendant, Arshazer Karapetyan, was arrested and confessed to Felony 243(c)(2) PC - "Battery on a Police Officer in the Commission of their Duties" in addition to other outstanding charges.

A panel of individuals representing the Sheriff, Chief Executive Office, County Counsel and the Executive Office of the Board reviewed the claim filed for the reward fund. The panel is recommending the reward be paid to the individual who provided information to law enforcement. In accordance with the provision of the Los Angeles County Code, Title 4 - Revenue and Finance, the Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Approval of the recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the apprehension and/or conviction of individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life for residents of Los Angeles County by removing such individuals from the community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$25,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$5,000 from each Supervisor's budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code establishing procedures for offering case rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time, has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors


12/11/2012

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this recommendation does not impact other current County services or projects.

Respectfully submitted,


SACHI A. HAMAI

Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

SAH:jl

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel